

28 Coming St. Charleston So. Co.

20 Nov. 1883.

To

Prof. Asa Gray
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Sir

I had not seen Aster
mirabilis (my specimens I mean)
for many years; but at your request
I drew out from the box ~~xx~~ where it had
been stored many years ago, package
after package, and with the help of
~~one~~ of my daughters, made search
for it. The insects seemed to have
spared it, and we found it in fair
condition, probably sufficient for
your purposes. There are two speci-
mens both of which I send. ~~One~~ you
are ~~you are~~ welcome to, the other
I should like to retain; select which-
ever you prefer, returning my labels.

If you find on the same sheet, another
Aster affixed, without specific name

assigned, gathered the same day
with A. mirabilis, with flowers not
unlike it, with pappus of same colour
but with much larger leaves. I have
left it attached to the sheet; please
name it for me.

I hope it will arrive safely and
in time for your use. Its departure has
been delayed two or three days, for the
prevailing catarrhal fever has kept
me in bed a couple of days. I send by
Express, as my College duties prevent
my visiting the Post Office, during the hours
for registering &c., and the Express Office is
nearest to me. Besides the P.O. requires the
package to be left open on one of its sides,
or that you exhibit ~~its~~ contents, ~~that~~
satisfy them that no written matter
is concealed. I hope you will receive it
safely by Express.

Yours very truly
Lewis R. Gibbs.